

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for ~~using a framework module to run~~ running an application using a framework module including a framework data structure, the framework ~~module comprising~~ data structure including an application table and a parameter table, the application table ~~comprising one or more~~ including application table entries, the parameter table ~~comprising one or more~~ including parameter table entries, the method comprising:

(a) selecting an application table entry; and

(b) processing the selected application table entry, the processing comprising:

(i) running a global initialize function referenced by the selected application table entry[[]];

(ii) running a sub-application referenced by the selected application table entry with one or more parameters referenced by one or more parameter table entries[[]];
and

(iii) running a global terminate function referenced by the selected application table entry.

2. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 1 wherein at least one of the global initialize and the global terminate functions is a NULL function.

3. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method of Claim 1 further comprising: ~~running a module initialize function referenced by the framework module; and running a module terminate function referenced by the framework module.~~

running a module initialize function referenced by the framework module; and

running a module terminate function referenced by the framework module.

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4. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method of Claim 1 wherein running a sub-application comprises:

(a) _____ accessing from the selected application table entry a number of threads to run; and

(b) _____ for each of the number of threads to run[[,]]:

(i) _____ running a thread initialize function referenced by the selected application table entry[[,]];

(ii) _____ running the sub-application, and

(iii) _____ running a thread terminate function referenced by the selected application table entry.

5. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method of Claim 1 further comprising: ~~selecting each application table entry in the application table; and processing each selected application table entry.~~

selecting each application table entry in the application table; and
processing each selected application table entry.

6. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 1 further comprising:

collecting data specifying that a sub-application should not be run; and

wherein selecting comprises selecting an application table entry other than one that references the specified sub-application.

7. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 1 further comprising:

collecting data specifying a value of a parameter;

collecting data specifying a sub-application; and

wherein processing further comprises:

if the application table entry being processed references the specified sub-application, then using the specified value of the parameter.

8. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 1 further comprising:

collecting data specifying a type of error;

collecting data specifying a sub-application;

collecting data specifying an error response action; and

wherein processing further comprises:

if the application table entry being processed references the specified sub-application, and if the specified sub-application generates an error of the specified type, then performing the specified error response action.

9. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 8 wherein the error response action is in the set: break into a debugger, exit without clean up; terminate all threads; exit immediately.

10. (Previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium having instructions for performing the method of Claim 1.

11. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for building a framework module for running an application, the framework module comprising an application table and a parameter table, the application comprising one or more sub-applications, the method comprising:

(a) collecting data specifying one or more sub-applications composing the application;

(b) collecting data specifying one or more parameters to the one or more sub-applications;

(c) creating the application table, the creating of the application table comprising creating an application table entry for each of the one or more specified sub-applications, the creating of an application table entry comprising:

(i) creating a reference to a global initialize function[[],] ;

(ii) creating a reference to a global terminate function[[],] ; and

(iii) creating a reference to the sub-application; and

(d) creating the parameter table, the creating of the parameter table comprising creating a parameter table entry for each of the one or more specified sub-application parameters, the creating of a parameter table entry comprising:

(i) creating a reference to a name of the parameter; and

(ii) creating a reference to a type of the parameter.

12. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 11 wherein creating a reference to at least one of the global initialize and global terminate functions comprises creating a NULL reference.

13. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 11 wherein creating an application table entry further comprises creating a reference to a number of threads to run, creating a reference to a thread initialize function, and creating a reference to a thread terminate function.

14. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of Claim 11 further comprising:

adding to the framework module a reference to a module initialize function; and

adding to the framework module a reference to a module terminate function.

15. (Previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium having instructions for performing the method of Claim 11.

16. (Previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure, the data structure comprising:

a first data field containing data representing a global initialize function;

a second data field containing data representing a global terminate function; and

a third data field containing data representing an application function.

17. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the data representing at least one of the global initialize and global terminate functions are NULL data.

18. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the data structure further comprising comprises:

a fourth data field containing data representing an application test function.

19. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the data structure further comprising comprises:

a fourth data field containing data representing a number of times to call the application function.

20. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 19, wherein the data structure further comprising comprises:

a fifth data field containing data representing an application post function.

21. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the data structure further comprising comprises:

a sixth data field containing data representing an application post test function.

22. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the data structure further comprising comprises:

a fourth data field containing data representing a number of threads to run;

a fifth data field containing data representing a thread initialize function; and

a sixth data field containing data representing a thread terminate function.

23. (Previously presented) A computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure, the data structure comprising:

a first data field containing data representing an application table, the application table comprising an application table entry; and

a second data field containing data representing a parameter table, the parameter table comprising a parameter table entry.

24. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 23 wherein the application table entry comprises:

- a third data field containing data representing a global initialize function;
- a fourth data field containing data representing a global terminate function; and
- a fifth data field containing data representing an application function.

25. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 24 wherein the application table entry further comprises:

- a sixth data field containing data representing an application test function.

26. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 24 wherein the application table entry further comprises:

- a sixth data field containing data representing a number of times to call the application function.

27. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 26 wherein the application table entry further comprises:

- a seventh data field containing data representing an application post function.

28. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 27 wherein the application table entry further comprises:

an eighth data field containing data representing an application post test function.

29. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 24 wherein the application table entry further comprises:

- a sixth data field containing data representing a number of threads to run;
- a seventh data field containing data representing a thread initialize function; and
- an eighth data field containing data representing a thread terminate function.

30. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 23 wherein the parameter table entry comprises:

- a third data field containing data representing a name of a parameter;
- a fourth data field containing data representing a type of the parameter; and
- a fifth data field containing data representing a value of the parameter.

31. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 23 wherein the application table comprises a second application table entry.

32. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 23 wherein the parameter table comprises a second parameter table entry.

33. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 23 further comprising:

- a third data field containing data representing a module initialize function; and

a fourth data field containing data representing a module terminate function.

34. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a data structure [[of]] as claimed in Claim 23 further comprising:

a third data field containing data representing a module check function; and

a fourth data field containing data representing a module clean up function.